

BACKGROUND

A 2-YEAR BIG LOTTERY FUNDED PILOT PROJECT DELIVERED BY REACHING PEOPLE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FEEDING BRITAIN

PROJECT AIM: to ensure that people accessing emergency food services have on-site access to quality information, advice and case advocacy to support them to tackle the issues that made them vulnerable to hunger.

Weekly advice sessions provided at:

- Braunstone Foodshare
- Christ the King Foodbank or E2 Food Hub
- Mosaic Foodbank
- The Emerald Centre

Support focus: income maximisation provided through a holistic, relationship-based approach.

Main advice areas:

- Welfare Benefits
- Housing problems
- Issues relating to physical and mental health
- Employment
- Debt

Supported referral to specialist advice as required

KEY OUTCOMES

- TOTAL INCREASE IN CLIENTS' ANNUAL INCOME OF £78,727
- BENEFIT SANCTIONS & OTHER DECISIONS OVERTURNED
- SOCIAL HOUSING APPLICATIONS & ALLOCATIONS
- BLUE BADGE AWARDS
- GRANT AWARDS
- EQUIPMENT/ADAPTATIONS ASSESSMENT & PROVISION
- SCHOOL APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

KEY FINDINGS

- HIGH INCIDENCE OF HEALTH ISSUES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO FINANCIAL HARDSHIP
- PREVIOUSLY, MULTIPLE BARRIERS TO ACCESSING SUPPORT, E.G. POOR DIGITAL ACCESS, LOW IT/LITERACY SKILLS/CONFIDENCE, LACK OF COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY
- RELATIONSHIP-BASED SUPPORT IN COMMUNITY VENUES ENABLES CLIENTS TO RESOLVE LONG-STANDING, COMPLEX ISSUES

FIND OUT MORE

For more details on how the project is working read the Year 1 Annual Report available here:

<https://www.reachingpeople.co.uk/leicester-food-bank-plus-report/>